

Press Release

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CITY OF HAMPTON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RECEIVES GRANT TO IMPROVE LOCAL STORMWATER PROGRAM

October 15, 2012 - In response to a proposal submitted to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the City of Hampton's Department of Public Works was recently notified of the 'Intent to Award' for Local Stormwater Program Development. The award recommendations are required to go through a 30-day public comment period before localities are required to sign the official grant agreement. The total amount of the award is \$43,550.

In July 2012, the City began working with Kimley-Horn and Associates to revise the existing stormwater regulatory program based on the new provisions from the state, which are ultimately required to be in place by July 2014. To remain cost-effective the City eliminated several tasks from the original contract with KHA, however, there were other elements that were recommended that would further strengthen our local program. The award will be used to further improve our Local Stormwater Program by: (1) Developing an Enforcement Framework and Exception Process, (2) Creating an Enforcement Manual, and (3) Training for Staff and the Development Community.

Strengthening of the local stormwater program is vital for the Hampton community especially as we strive to continually develop and grow. The program helps protect citizens, property and natural resources from unmanaged stormwater runoff, specifically related to construction activities, by ensuring that runoff does not pollute local waterways. The grant period is for approximately 12 months, with an option for a 1-year extension.

The Department of Public Works' Stormwater Division is responsible for managing water quantity and quality throughout the City of Hampton. Water quantity focuses on reducing flooding and the damage that it can cause to individual property owners, while water quality seeks to reduce the environmental effects of pollution of our local waterways.

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